



Department of Workforce Services, Utah Office of Child Care
Advisory Committee Meeting
140 East 300 South
10:00 a.m. – Noon
Room 211
January 12, 2005

Presiding: Annabel Sheinberg – Chair

Time		MINUTES	Presenter
10:00 a.m.	1.	Welcome	Annabel Sheinberg
10:05 a.m.	2.	Approval of Past Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none">• December Full Meeting• December Executive Meeting	Annabel Sheinberg
10:10 a.m.	3.	Sub-Committee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public Awareness Carrie Stott• Quality Pete Maiden	
10:45 a.m.	4.	Licensing Update	Iona Thraen
11:00 a.m.	5.	Transition Update.....	John Nixon
11:30 a.m.	6.	Director's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provider Training – Susyn Keel• Annual Report Press Conference- canceled• Nominating Committee	Lynette Rasmussen
11:40 a.m.	7.	Old & New Business, Chair Comments.....	Annabel Sheinberg
11:50 a.m.	8.	Public Comment	

ADJOURN

Attending (*denotes voting member):

*Megan Cisney	Karen Silver
*Scott Nielsen	Sarah Yerman
*Anna Anderson	Eloina Goff
*Bobbie Ikegami	Donna Thomas
*Sheila Lewis	Carol Holcombe
*Janet Wade	Amy Hatten
*Amy Stevens	Amie Huffman
*Karen Crompton	Colleen Fitzgerald
*Erin Trenbeath-Murray	Teresa Whiting
*Annabel Sheinberg	Susyn Keel
*Lynette Rasmussen	Dave Baldwin
*Carrie Stott	Christi Christian
*Iona Thraen	

Excused/Absent:

- *Judie Erickson
- *Pete Maiden
- *Lori Maughan
- *Leslie Bosen
- *Judy Miller
- *Laura Oscarson-Wilde
- *Hydee Willis

ITEM 1 Welcome

Annabel welcomed all in attendance and noted that Carrie Stott and Iona Thraen were joining us by teleconference.

ITEM 2 Approval of Past Minutes

MOTION made by Karen Crompton to approve minutes from the December Meeting.
SECOND by Megan Cisney.
CARRIED.

MOTION made by Megan Cisney to approve the minutes from the Executive Meeting in December.
SECOND by Erin Trenbeath-Murray.
CARRIED.

ITEM 3 Sub-Committee Reports

Public Awareness-

The Public Awareness Sub-Committee didn't meet this month, but Lynette gave an update. The Talking Points card is finished and will be sent to the printer next week. We plan to have 500 copies made. Everyone has permission to make copies of theirs to distribute if they need more.

Vanguard Media is drafting scripts for the next Care About Child Care commercial. The scripts will come to this subcommittee for review. We're hoping to air the commercials in a few months. There are some budget issues right now that we are trying to work through.

Quality-

The Quality Sub-Committee met to discuss school age programs and licensing rules. This was the first meeting on the subject. There was good representation from almost all the interested parties identified at the meeting. There will be further discussion on February 9th. Issues will not have an immediate impact and recommendations will come to the full advisory board to see what actions will be taken.

ITEM 4 Licensing Update

Licensing has been very busy over the holidays trying to communicate the correct changes to the community. The press has had a difficult time-sharing the correct information.

The new policy is this:

An announced visit will happen once a year. During this visit if any high-risk activity is witnessed, the licensor is able to cite the provider immediately. If there are problems in the program (that aren't serious health/safety hazards), the licensor will point them out to the provider and the provider sets a date of correction. The licensor then can make unannounced visits over a period of time (30 or more days depending on the severity of the problem). If the problem isn't corrected when the licensor makes the unannounced visit, the licensor will cite the deficiency.

This does not give away licensing's regulatory authority. It adds technical assistance, coaching and training. Programs are more prepared for visits, having questions written down and files in order. Greater compliance among providers.

Licensors have begun to attend training and are working on streamlining forms in order to keep licensors consistent.

Complaints are now being triaged and tracked to look for patterns.

Scott Nielsen says that these are good ideas. He feels that licensors are sometimes the only contact that providers have with the state. This will bridge gaps that providers have felt in not having a relationship with their licensor. This new process will help.

Iona said this process isn't set in stone. They have six months to work on it before it is revisited.

Senator Waddoups has asked that another legislative audit be done on child care. Iona is meeting with the auditors this week.

One issue being brought to the legislature is a concern by UPCCA. They are looking at the duplication of government agencies- licensing and health inspectors doing kitchen inspections. Food code in child care centers is looked at as similar to restaurants so licensors don't do the inspection. The inspections are done by Environmental Health Inspectors and are far beyond what licensors inspect for. UPCCA would like licensing to do the inspections.

ITEM 5 Transition Report

Governor Huntsman did accept Raylene's letter of resignation. John Nixon is acting Director. 14 of 16 members of the Governor's cabinet have been decided. John hasn't heard much since then. John will continue to move DWS forward in serving customers. He won't make any changes until decisions have been made. John thinks that the Governor may wait until the end of the session but probably wants to make the decision before then, hopefully by the end of the week.

After the Executive Director is chosen, there will be a second phase of transition with the directors of DWS. This is when the advisory committee may be engaged. There has been talk of eliminating boards and commissions. John feels that OCC's board isn't one of them, but anything can happen.

Karen Crompton said that we're sorry to see Raylene leave, but DWS is lucky to have John here to provide some continuity. Some agencies are going to have a difficult time during the session with new leaders in place.

Annabel presented John with an OCC Talking Points Card.

Questions~

Any sense of Huntsman's issues on children and child care? John thinks the Governor will be supportive and friendly towards kids issues. He's talked about expanding health and dental care for kids. The Lieutenant Governor's wife owns a child care center so that may help.

ITEM 6 Director's Report

Provider Training-

Beginning Tuesday, January 17, parents who use the IVR system to transfer benefits to their provider will no longer need to use a password. This will make the process easier for parents.

In April 2005 all licensed family providers will be required to use the EBT system to collect payment from parents. There will be a series of mailing from our office to alert parents and providers of this change. OCC will also provide training throughout the state for providers on this new process. The letters will be translated in Spanish and we will also have a Spanish class in Orem.

Another change is that the 2 different tiers for family providers are collapsing to one. Instead of a tier for family and family group, both will be paid at the family group rate. This simplifies the process internally.

OCC has asked Vanguard Media to create a parent education video to train families about the subsidy program.

Questions~

Will the information be available in other languages? We can use DWS translators. Suggestion to use the refugee employment center, and to make an insert that tells people to go to their local employment center to have this translated- "this is an important document, get it translated."

Annual Report Press Conference Cancelled-

The reason for the cancellation was because the Governor was going to be releasing the names of his cabinet that day and the office asked us to not hold any conferences. We want to lay low until we have a new Executive Director. May reschedule, we'll keep you posted.

Economic Impact Study-

BBC has provided OCC with a draft of the Executive Summary. Very exciting information! This study shows how child care fits in the economic structure of Utah in tax revenues, income, and spending on both the provider and the parent side. It also compares child care to other industries in the state.

We also have a snapshot of where parents are sending their kids. There are a large number of kids in informal care.

Lynette thinks this is exciting because the studies that...

The Governor is very focused on economic issues so this is perfect timing. We will have a big press release for this. The team at BBC will be here for a few days to present the report to the legislature. There was a suggestion to have BBC meet with the editorial board- good idea.

Nominating Committee-

Several people on our Advisory Committee have terms expiring this year. Lynette would like to create a nominating committee to fill the open slots. Lynette is collecting a list of names of people who are interested in being on the Advisory Committee. If you are interested in being on the Nominating Committee, please contact Lynette, Annabel or Christi.

ITEM 7 Old & New Business, Chair Comments

Janet Wade- there is going to be a Children's Trust Fund and it will be a 501(C)(3). The trust fund in Utah is very meager and the hope is to pull together all the different agencies on child abuse prevention.

Early Intervention Baby Watch has received a grant through the school district. It is an outcomes grant for children with disabilities. There will be a kick off on the 19th if anyone is interested in attending.

ITEM 8 Public Comment

Karen Silver wanted to make a comment on the Economic Impact Study. While BBC is here maybe they could present at a noon caucus meeting. These are open meetings and minutes are taken. Karen would be happy to help arrange presentations. Also, Karen is very pleased to see a parent here.

Karen Silver attended an Administrative Rules Meeting when a provider from the UPCCA board handed out private information about parents who she said owed her money. This was a breach of confidentiality. Karen says it is not appropriate to give out this information in a public meeting. She is following up on it.

Johnny Anderson- in defense of UPCCA, Johnny doesn't know about this happening and UPCCA does not endorse that sort of action. Whoever gave out that information was acting on their own behalf and not on UPCCA's.

Johnny thinks that we have an historic opportunity to make changes regarding Residentially Certified Providers (RC). Some representatives are acting like they have changed their mind about RC providers. There may be some support to turn back the decision on RC providers. UPCCA is going to meet about this tonight and may be moving forward on this issue.

Is UPCCA looking to strengthen regulation for RC providers or just doing away with RC altogether? Johnny wants to know what this committee is willing to support. RC is the largest sector of care right now. This could disrupt a lot of families if we just did away with it.

Annabel appreciates the notion of trying to raise the level of care, but we need to be cautious of how we precede.

UPCCA is not going to make any requests this legislative session. Johnny is trying to get an idea of where the issue stands. He will be doing research, discussion, and planning. Raising the issue is fine and putting together a study group is a good idea. Ongoing advocate meetings at the capital could help with something like that.

Karen Crompton will send the advocate meeting information to Johnny (or send it to Christi to forward to Johnny).

Sheila Lewis agrees that we need to have more regulation but we need to include parents in the discussion. Parents may need the RC option. The latest Market Rate Study shows that in most age categories, RC costs the same as licensed family care. If it's not cheaper, why are parents choosing RC care?

This could be a good topic for a meeting in a few months if we're really prepared to talk about it.

Adjourn.